

Ad-hoc Agricultural Assessment Work Group

7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI 49740

Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2012 10, NRD Conference Room

GIS Director Alan Proctor, Natural Resources Director, Tribal Councilor John Keshick, Health Educator Regina Brubaker-Carver, Diabetes Coordinator Michelle Keshick, Natural Resources Commissioner Renee Wasson Dillard, Tribal Councilor Kevin Gasco

1. The meeting was called to order at 10am.
2. Alan Proctor, Doug Craven, John Keshick and Kevin Gasco were present.
3. Agenda – no action taken
4. Minutes – no action taken
5. Reports on Action Items
6. Old Business
7. New Business
 - a. Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP) Updates
 - b. General Services Administration (GSA) Program, www.gsa.gov
 - c. LTBB Greenhouse Updates
 - i. Doug Craven, east and west vents installed, plastic sheeting on, need to adjust curtains and bring electrician in to hook up motors. Need to begin plan for greenhouse use and outline departmental involvement.
 - ii. RG suggests providing starts, have staff time commitments if they are participating in program. Discussion on Odawa Shield beans, squash and the need to protect heritage seeds from contaminants.
 - iii.
 - d. Parcel #54
 - i. AAWG overall discussion between Parcel 54 and Parcel 61 and potential benefits to LTBB each presents. Overall consensus is to concentrate efforts in acquiring Parcel 54. JK suggested contacting Kim (owner) to determine what may come with purchase (i.e., equipment – tractors, tillers, implements, irrigation, research by current landowner conducted through MSUE out of Marquette, USDA and NRCS for crop suitability based on soils and growing conditions), and involvement of LTBB Youth. JK suggested farming stand for youth at Biindigen, DC talked about 4 H involvements.
 - ii. Parcel 54 Irrigation System – JK, switch board in house, EPA permission to draw from creek on property on site.

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- e. Role of AAWG & Strategic Planning – KG suggested beginning a strategic plan that will eventually morph in to beginnings of LTBB Department of Agriculture. Further discussion on Legislative and Executive working together help make this happen.
 - f.
8. Action Items
- a. GSA Program - Kevin Gasco to investigate LTBB involvement.
 - b. Farm Operation Plan and Budget – AP and DC to begin putting basic plan together for associated expenses outside of purchase price.
 - i. House on-site as part of salary
 - ii. Youth Involvement - RG
 - 1. 4H
 - 2. Biindigen farm stand
 - iii. Part of crop farmer could sell at Market as part of salary
 - iv. Distribution to LTBB programs
 - v. Farming educational programs
 - vi. Marketing and economic development
 - c. Building Codes – JK and KG to organize discussions with LTBB Executive and Planning. Along with Legislative personnel in order to better understand associated construction costs of LTBB farming developments (barn and associated structures).
 - d. Youth Group – RG to contact Kristy Dayson to talk about above topics.
 - e. Parcel 54 Tour by AAWG – AP to coordinate with BG for next Friday, 120712.
 - f. Kevin Gasco AAWG 120212 report to LTBB Council.
 - g. MSU Apprenticeship Program – RG to investigate.
9. Next Meeting – December 20, 2012 10am LTBB NRD Conference Room
10. Adjournment